**PLEASE NOTE**: The following information is provided by USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, Texas Export Section. While much of the information will apply to everyone, some is specific to Texas only. If you are in another state, please contact your local USDA Area Office [click on the <u>map</u> or **here**] for specific information.

### **Pet Travel: Australia**

## Download the file needed to get your animal into the country

- Go to <a href="www.aphis.usda.gov">www.aphis.usda.gov</a> and follow the links in the left column please note our website is undergoing constant change and previously bookmarked links very well may not work at the time of preparing this document the link <a href="here">here</a> takes you directly to the animal export IREGS.
- Click on Australia. Select the pet category and follow the links.
- Requirements changed effective Dec 2, 2013 please read carefully! All testing and vaccinations must be done in an approved country.

## Australia's Requirements – to be met prior to applying for Import Permit

- The pet must be microchipped with a chip that can be read by an Avid, Trovan, Destron or other ISO compatible reader.
- The pet must have a current rabies vaccination based on the manufacturer's recommendation. The rabies vaccination must be administered in an approved country, and must have been given after the microchip was implanted.
- The pet must have a rabies titer test (also known as FAVN) completed after the microchip has been implanted and after the rabies vaccination. If it is the pet's first rabies vaccination, a waiting period of 3-4 weeks is recommended. The blood sample must be drawn in an approved country, and sent to an approved lab for Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Titre Test (RNATT). The RNATT is valid for 24 months from the date of the blood collection and must include the pet's microchip number.
- Prior to arrival in Australia, cats and dogs must wait for a minimum of 180 days from the date the blood was collected for the RNATT test.
- Your pet will be in quarantine in Australia for a minimum of 10 days.

### Documents required by the USDA's Office – to endorse the RNATT Declaration

- A copy of the RNATT declaration. Download the form here: http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/cat-dogs/how-to-complete-the-import-application/rabies-neutralising-antibody
- A signed Rabies Vaccination certificate with the following information
  - a) Complete description of the animal (name, breed, sex, age/DOB, color, microchip number).
  - b) Date vaccination was given and the date the next vaccination is due.
  - c) Vaccine manufacturer, vaccine lot.
  - d) License number of the veterinarian who signed the rabies certificate.
- Results of the titer test. The original copy of the titer test is preferred.

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### **Pet Travel: Australia(continued)**

# <u>Australia's Requirements – to be met prior to export (summarized information ONLY)</u>

- Step-by-step guides as well as a "calculator" to estimate dates for vaccinations and testing are available on Australia's website at <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/cat-dogs">http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/cat-dogs</a>
- Dogs and cats:
  - 1. internal parasite treatment (against cestodes and nematodes) two treatments at least 14 days apart and within 45 days of export, second treatment must be within 5 days of export
  - 2. external parasite treatment (must kill ticks and fleas on contact) initiated at least 21 days prior to export (for cats) or prior to testing for E. canis (for dogs) and repeated according to manufacturer's directions until export please have your vet contact our office for specific guidance on external parasite treatment
  - 3. clinical exam within 5 days of export
  - 4. completion of health certificate within 5 days of export
- Dogs only:

Please have your veterinarian contact our office for additional guidance on the below items.

- 1. canine influenza vaccination must have completed initial series or have booster vaccination done less than 12 months but more than 14 days prior to export
- 2. Brucella canis testing only required for intact (not neutered) dogs within 45 days of export
- 3. Leishmania infantum testing within 45 days of export
- 4. Leptospira canicola testing or vaccination neg test within 45 days of export or vaccination done less than 12 months but more than 14 days prior to export
- 5. Babesia canis treatment if your dog has ever visited mainland Africa within 28 days of export
- 6. Ehrlichia canis testing at least 21 days after external parasite treatment was done, and within 21 days of export

### Documents required by the USDA's Office – to endorse the health certificate

- Original health certificate signed by an accredited veterinarian please note there are approved versions available from our office that are different from the certificate you will receive with your import permit please have your veterinarian contact our office for details.
- Rabies titer test (original or copy signed by veterinarian).
- Endorsed RNATT declaration (original or copy).
- Signed rabies vaccination certificate.
- Laboratory reports and/or proof of vaccinations lab reports must be signed by the veterinarian, must contain the animal's microchip number, and the date the sample was collected.

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### **Pet Travel: Australia(continued)**

### Fee Schedule for endorsement by USDA

RNATT Declaration: \$121.00 for the first declaration and \$7.00 for each additional declaration for the same owner.

Cat health certificate: \$121.00 for the first animal and \$7.00 for each additional animal with the same owner.

Dog health certificate: \$150.00 for the first animal and \$12.00 for each additional animal with the same owner.

Make checks and money orders payable to: USDA APHIS. All credit cards are accepted. Cash is not accepted. Please include a driver's license number on all checks.

#### Send your certificate(s) and payment to:

USDA, APHIS VS, 903 San Jacinto Blvd, Export Section, Room 262, Austin, TX 78701 ONLY SEND CERTIFICATES HERE IF SIGNED BY A TEXAS VETERINARIAN

Completed certificates will be returned to you by regular mail unless a prepaid, preaddressed, (addressed from you to you), air bill is provided. **WE CANNOT ACCEPT A HANDWRITTEN LABEL UNLESS THERE IS AN ACCOUNT NUMBER LISTED FOR PAYMENT.** Always keep the tracking numbers so you can check with the delivery service to find out the status of your documents.

### Walk-ins

We accept walk-ins between 7:30am and 11:30am. We can also either call you when your documents are completed or you may leave a prepaid, pre-addressed return air bill. Our office is open from 7:30am to 4:00pm M-F.

### **Miscellaneous Information**

- If there are problems with your documents we will contact your veterinarian. We will only contact the pet owner if we are unable to resolve the problem.
- Use the yellow pages to find a USDA accredited veterinarian. United States Department of Agriculture personnel can only verify the veterinarian is accredited if you provide a complete name.
- If you are exporting a pet to Australia, especially a dog, we recommend your veterinarian contact us <u>before</u> beginning any of the required testing so we can discuss exactly what they need to do. We also HIGHLY recommend your veterinarian submit the certificate for "pre-review" to our office before sending it for endorsement, since there is such a short time frame to have the travel certificate issued and endorsed.

### **Contact Information – TEXAS CLIENTS ONLY!**

Phone: 512-383-2411 Fax: 512-916-5591 E-mail: expcerttx@aphis.usda.gov Website: click here (if the link doesn't work please contact us for a current link) If you are in another state, please click here to locate correct contact information.